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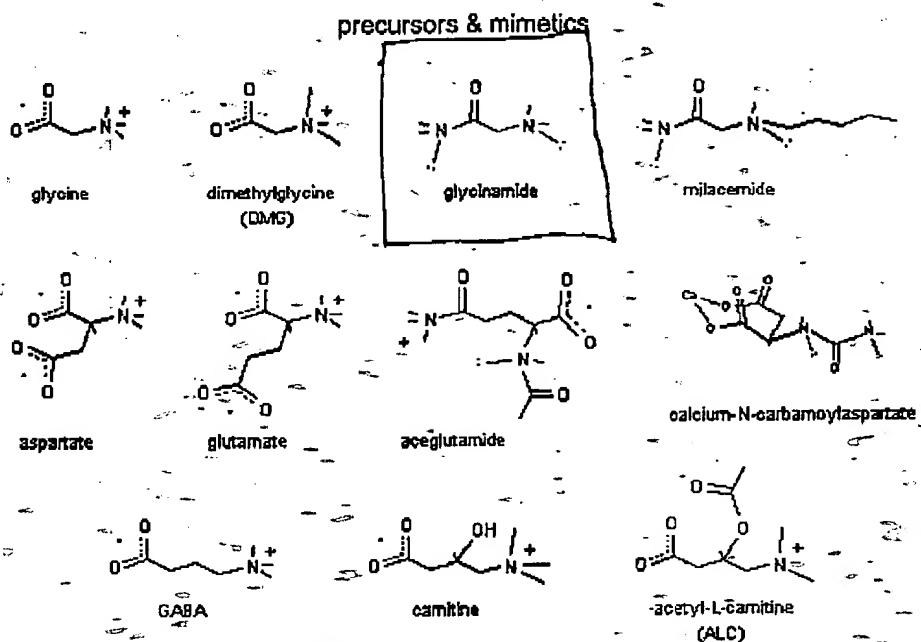
T-219 P-012/016 F-213

EXHIBIT A

nootropics & smart drugs

precursors & mimetics
enzyme & uptake drugs
phospholipid membrane esters
steroids
mood stabilizers
antianoxics
cerebral vasodilators & anticoagulants
peptides
miscellaneous agents

Nootropics, also known as smart drugs or cognition activators, are drugs that enhance mental function. Several mechanisms that affect nerve function may be attacked. Compounds that are used by the body to manufacture neurotransmitters constitute one group (precursors). Reuptake and degradation inhibitors form another. Mimetics of excitatory neurotransmitters and antagonists of inhibitory ones can both stimulate neural function. Antianoxics enhance the ability of neurons to burn glucose. Phospholipid compounds affect the fatty excitable membranes of nerve cells, which are responsible for transporting a depolarization pulse down dendrites and axons. Steroid compounds also affect membrane chemistry. Vasodilators which act in the CNS increase blood supply to brain cells. Still other drugs increase the flexibility of red blood cells so they can gain access to more neurons more often. All these effects be theoretically be used to enhance neurological function in the CNS.



Glycine systems perform inhibitory functions in the CNS. Enhancement of these pathways imparts anti-anxiety effects and so stabilizes mood. Glycine itself is a zwitterion and so does not pass the blood-brain barrier very well. Dimethylglycine is stabilized by the methyl groups; its greater lipophilicity results in better transport to the CNS, where it is converted to glycine. Milacemide is a pro compound which decomposes (via MAO-B) to glycinamide and then glycine in the CNS.

Glutamate and aspartate are another group of excitatory neurotransmitter prominent in the CNS. Since they are acidic amino acids they have difficulty crossing the blood-brain barrier, but standard tricks can be used to deliver them to the CNS. Making an amide out of a carboxy acid is one of these (as in glutamine and aceglutamide); a somewhat more radical method is to make a covalent salt with calcium, as in calcium-N-carbamoylaspartate.

Carnitine is a catabolic (tearing-down) amino acid which serves as a neuroprotectant at NMDA receptors (a subset of glutamate/aspartate receptors). Acetylation of the hydroxy group gives ALC, which again has

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EXHIBIT B

